
	<b>LOS LUNAS POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>	
	OPERATIONS	NUMBER: OPR.17.01
	EFFECTIVE DATE: June 08, 2010	
	SUBJECT: Drug Recognition Expert	
		REVIEW DATE: August 18, 2015
AMENDS/ SUPERSEDES:		NMSA:
NMMLEPSC STANDARDS:		APPROVED BY CHIEF OF POLICE NAITHAN G. GURULE  Signature

## I. PURPOSE

It is the purpose of the Los Lunas Police Department to have and maintain a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE).

## II. POLICY

A. It is the policy that the DRE program to provide trained and certified Drug Recognition Officers trained in the identification and detection of drivers under the influence of substances other than alcohol, thereby increasing the likelihood of the arrest of drug impaired drivers in our community. This should result in a reduction of alcohol and drug related crashes, thereby reducing the incidence of alcohol/drug use in the operation of motor vehicles.

### B. Duties and Responsibilities

#### 1. DRE OFFICER

- a) Responds to requests requiring drug recognition skills and performs DRE evaluations in accordance with State of New Mexico DRE Regulations.
- b) Arrests persons suspected of Driving While Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs.
- c) Conducts breath or directs blood and urine tests on suspected DWI offenders and logs results.
- d) Prepares written reports of DRE events on shift and prepares a DRE event report to be turned in at the end of the month to the DRE Coordinator.

- e) Prepares a DRE report at the end of each on call period and submits it to the DRE Coordinator or Supervising Sergeant.

#### C. DRE ROOM PROCEDURES

- a. Officers must be aware of officer safety during the DRE evaluation.
- b. Prisoners under the influence may react unexpectedly or violently.
- c. Officers will secure firearms in a locker or the trunk of a Police vehicle.
- d. DRE Officers are responsible for the drug evaluation investigation. The arresting officer will be available to maintain officer safety during the evaluation.
- e. Two officers are required for each evaluation. One will conduct the investigation and the other officer will be the scribe for record keeping if two DRE certified officers are not available the DRE certified will conduct the evaluation and scribe.
- f. The DRE Officer(s) are responsible for ensuring that the DRE Room is left in a clean and orderly condition. Any discrepancies should immediately be brought to the attention of the DRE Coordinator or a Sergeant.

#### D. REPORTS DISTRIBUTION

- a. DRE Officers are responsible for ensuring that all original forms are forwarded to the DRE Coordinator.
- b. DRE Officers are responsible for making and maintaining personal copies of all forms and evaluations.
- c. The DRE Coordinator is responsible for reviewing all DRE forms and for forwarding the originals to the Records Division in a timely manner.
- d. The DRE Coordinator is responsible for maintaining a central file system for all DRE forms, logs, and evaluations for all DRE certified Officers.
- e. The DRE Coordinator is responsible for coordination and distribution of all results of drug analysis from the State Scientific Laboratory Division.

#### E. EVIDENCE HANDLING

- a. DRE Officers are responsible for the disposition of evidence (blood test kits, urine samples, breath cards, etc.).
- b. DRE Officers will log and secure all samples collected into the DRE room refrigerator.
- c. All photographs are to be tagged into evidence consistent with department procedures.
- d. The Evidence Unit is responsible for transferring the collected samples to the State Scientific Laboratory Division.

#### F. LOG MAINTAINENCE

- a. DRE Officers are responsible for maintaining copies of all drug evaluations, evaluation logs, certification and re-certification and progress logs and to make available (and keep current) the listed items for the DRE Coordinator.
- b. The DRE Coordinator is responsible for maintaining a central file system for all forms and logs, to include individual DRE Officer resumes.

#### G. DRE EQUIPMENT

1. DRE Officers will maintain all issued equipment in good working condition.
2. DRE Officers will report any equipment discrepancies to the DRE Coordinator or Sergeant.

#### H. DRUG RECOGNITION CALL-OUT PROCEDURES

1. The investigating officer's supervisor will approve all call-out requests.
2. Officers may call-out DRE personnel in cases where:
  - a) A subject shows physical impairment based on performance of Standard Field
  - b) Sobriety Tests (SFSTs) and/or operation of a vehicle and gives a low breath test score (below .08% blood alcohol content) on the intoxilyzer.
  - c) There is a case of a fatality or serious injury crash.

- a) Circumstances lead the investigating officer to believe that the impairment of the subject is due to illegal street narcotics, prescription medications, or volatile substances.
- b) The DRE Coordinator or a Supervising officer has cleared the call-out.
- c) When called to assist, it will be the DRE Officer's responsibility to determine if a blood technician will be called out.

1. Investigating Officers should consider the following circumstances in deciding whether or not to call-out DRE personnel:

- a) Drug possession by the subject.
- b) Presence of drug paraphernalia on subject or in the vehicle..
- a) Incriminating statements of drug use by the subject.
- c) Odor of narcotics or volatile substances on the subject
- d) Fresh injection marks on the subject.
- e) Physical characteristic of the subject ( pupil size, slurred
- f) rapid speech, body tremors, etc.).
- g) Whether or not the subject admits to being ill or to taking medication.
- h) If there has been a crash, has the subject suffered a blow to the head or other injury? Any inappropriate behavior by the subject.

or